Improving facilities at Nagpur Railway Station

4396. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Railway has drawn a strategy to ease the traffic congestion at Nagpur Railway Station;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Railways proposed to restart work on the pending Master Plan, to improve facilities at Nagpur Railway Station;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the funds allocated for this purpose during current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (e) Railways have taken up the work of remodelling of Nagpur yard for improvement of operating facilities at the station at a cost of Rs. 902.86 lakhs. This work provides for extension of existing platforms to accommodate longer trains, additional washing cum maintenance sidings, extension of shunting neck and signalling arrangements on goods line for through movement of freight trains.

A Master Plan for the provision of improved passenger amenities at a Nagpur station has been implemented. At this station, facilities for smooth flow and easy movement of passengers already exist. Therefore, the issues of restarting the work on pending Master Plan or allocation of funds for the purpose do not arise.

Enhancement of Licence Fee for Railway Catering/Vending Contractors

4397. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is as fact that the business and the earnings of catering/ vending contractors at big and small railway stations are equal;

(b) if not, what the reasons for enhancement of licence fee from three per cent to twelve per cent, in the case of small stations as well;

(c) whether it is a fact that before issuing instructions for enhancement of licence fee from three per cent to twelve per cent, all relevant factors were taken into consideration; and